

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O R 031540Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3857

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5395

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, NATO

SUBJECT: EC MEETING ON MBFR

REF: STATE 234883

1. IN MEETING OCTOBER 3 WITH VAN CAMPEN, SYG LUNS' DIRECTOR OF CABINET, CHARGE DREW ON GUIDANCE REFTEL IN RESPONDING TO LUNS' CONCERNS OVER EC DISCUSSIONS ON MBFR. VAN CAMPEN WAS GRATIFIED TO LEARN OF US POSITION, WHICH HE PROMISED TO PASS ALONG TO LUNS.

2. VAN CAMPEN ALSO REPORTED THAT IN MEETING WITH LUNS ALSO OCTOBER 3, ITALIAN CHARGE SPINELLI HAD FORMALLY TOLD LUNS ON BEHALF OF EC-NINE OF THEIR DECISION TO HOLD MEETING OCTOBER 6 AT LUXEMBOURG OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND NATO PERMREPS OF THE EIGHT ALLIES WHO ARE ALSO EC MEMBERS FOR MBFR DISCUSSION. ACCORDING TO VAN CAMPEN, LUNS STERNLY OPPOSED EC GATHERING, AND ASKED SPINELLI TO ASK GOI, AS EC-NINE PRESIDENT, TO CONVERY LUNS' VIEW TO THE OTHERS OF THE NINE.

3. ACCORDING TO VAN CAMPEN, LUNS MADE THE FOLLOWING  
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SPECIFIC POINTS TO SPINELLI: (A) IF THERE IS ANY ITEM ON THE CURRENT EUROPEAN AGENDA THAT IT IS A POLITICAL SECURITY ISSUE, IT IS MBFR; ACCORDINGLY, MBFR SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE ALLIANCE FRAMEWORK; (B)

IT IS INCOMPREHENSIBLE THAT FRANCE, WHICH IS NOT INVOLVED IN MBFR DISUSSIONS AT NATO, SHOULD SEEK TO USE THE NINE FRAMEWORK TO INFLUENCE THE ALLIES; (C) IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE IRISH WERE BEING BROUGHT, THROUGH THE NINE, INTO DISCUSSION OF MBFR; (D) HOPEFULLY, THERE WOULD BE NO FAIT ACCOMPLI FOR NATO FLOWING FROM THE DISCUSSION AMONG THE NINE; IF THE NINE SOUGHT TO IMPOSE THEIR VIEWS AT NATO, IT COULD LEAD TO A CRISIS IN THE COUNCIL. FINALLY, LUNS REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE WAS UNPREPARED TO HAVE ANY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL CONSIDERED AS "SECOND-CLASS CITIZENS" BY THE NINE.

4. ACCORDING TO VAN CAMPEN, AFTER SPINELLI HAD TRIED TO CLARIFY THAT THE EC-NINE GATHERING WAS BEING HELD ESSENTIALLY AT THE BEHEST OF FRANCE, LUNS CUT OFF FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH HIM. MOREOVER, LUNS THEREAFTER TOLD VAN CAMPEN TO TRY TO LINE UP UK, NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM DELEGATIONS TO SUPPORT HIS OPPOSITION TO EC MEETING.

5. COMMENT: LUNS APPEARS DETERMINED TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE IN PRESERVING ROLE OF NATO IN DEALING WITH SECURITY ISSUES. WE SEE NO NEED FOR FURTHER US ACTION.  
STREATOR

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